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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Toshiyuki MORII et al.

Serial No : 09/462,493

Filed : January 21, 2000

For : SPEECH CODING APPARATUS AND SPEECH DECODING APPARATUS



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby call the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

"Code Excited Linear Prediction (CELP): High-Quality Speech At Very Low Bit Rates", M.R. Schroeder, ICASSP'85, Proceedings, pp.937-940 (1985).

The following documents were cited in a search report issued with respect to PCT/JP 99/03064, upon which the present application is based:

International Publication No. WO 91/13432 to (Universite De Sherbrooke), published on September 5, 1991, was indicated as relevant to claims 1, 5, 13 and 15, as a category Y document (document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such

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documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art). The European Examiner indicated relevant passages as the Abstract, page 2, lines 20-31, and page 14, lines 1-21.

International Publication No. WO 95/16260 to Pacific Communication Sciences, Inc., published on June 15, 1995, was indicated as relevant to claims 1, 5, 13 and 15, as a category Y document, and relevant to claim 17, as a category A document (document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance). The European Examiner indicated relevant passages as the Abstract and claims 1-7.

“Adaptive Density Pulse Excitation for Low Bit Rate Speech Coding”, M. Akamine et al., IEICE Trans. on Fundamentals of Electronics, Communications and Computer Sciences, vol. E78-A, no.2 (1995), was indicated as relevant to claims 1, 6, 11, 13, 15 and 17, as a category A document. The European Examiner indicated relevant passages as the abstract and page 199, right-hand column, line 43-line 49.

“CELP Coding With An Adaptive Density Pulse Excitation Model”, M. Akamine et al., ICASSP'90, Speech and Processing 1, vol. 1, pages 29-32 (April 3, 1990), relevant to claims 1, 6, 11, 13, 15 and 17, as a category A document. The European Examiner indicated relevant passages as the abstract and paragraph 02.2.

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Applicants also bring to the Examiner's attention the following copending and commonly assigned patent application:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/101,186, filed on July 6, 1998.

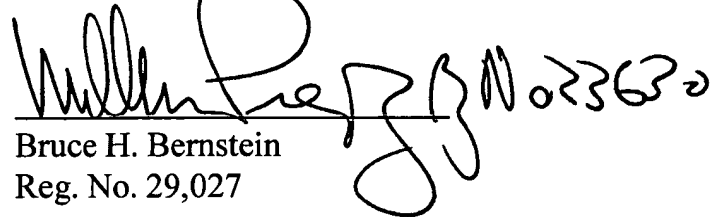
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of the above-mentioned application is not attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to review the file wrapper of these U.S. patent application at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Of course, if for any reason the Examiner cannot locate any of the applications, Applicants will provide any requested materials, if possible.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider all of the above materials and cite the patent documents and publications. Copies of the above-noted patents and publications are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Toshiyuki MORI et al.


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April 19, 2000
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